



# Developmental education fund

## Purpose

Kentucky shares the national challenge to improve the success rates of underprepared students admitted to postsecondary institutions. More than half of the first-year students entering Kentucky's colleges and universities are underprepared in at least one subject. Research shows that these students drop out of college at twice the rate of prepared students.

The developmental education fund supports program redesign, staffing, and additional infrastructure needed to improve the success rates of developmental education students at Kentucky's public postsecondary institutions.

## Proposal

The Council requests \$500,000 for each of the public four-year institutions and \$1.5 million for KCTCS in 2008-09 to enhance the infrastructure needed to improve the success of developmental education students.

The Council requests an additional \$3 million in 2009-10 to be divided among the public institutions based on the

number of first-year developmental education students at each institution and their level of preparedness. Additional performance funds for developmental education are built into the Double the Numbers degree fund.

The Council also requests \$1.8 million to support statewide strategies to implement other recommendations of the Kentucky Developmental Education Task Force, including improved teacher preparation, professional development, and early student intervention strategies.

## How it works

These funds will be allocated to public postsecondary education institutions upon a Council-approved plan that outlines proposed improvements in developmental education programs, including short-term outcomes to measure student success (persistence rates, graduation rates, average credit hours passed, etc.). General guidelines for the plans will be presented to the Council in winter 2008.

## Measuring success

Per the Council's accountability system, institutional outcomes will be reviewed by the Council annually and reported to the Interim Joint Committee on Appropriations and Revenue, the Interim Joint Committee on Education, the Strategic Committee on Postsecondary Education, and the Legislative Research Commission. This process will provide an opportunity to assess progress for the intended strategic investment and will determine future funding.

## Highlights

- New funding of \$7.3 million in 2008-09 and an additional \$3 million in 2009-10.
- Funds will support institutional efforts to better serve underprepared college students and statewide efforts to improve teacher preparation and development.